

REMARKS

Claims 1, 7-9, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20, 21 and 23-31 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 7, 11, 13, 21, 23, 27 and 28 are amended and claims 2-6 and 14 are cancelled.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by the Examiner during the March 1, 2010 telephone interview are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below, which constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

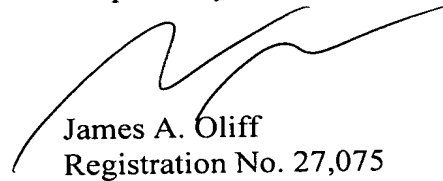
Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 3. As agreed during the telephone interview, claim 5 also recites allowable features. As a result, all of the independent claims have been amended in order to incorporate the features of claim 5.

The rejections of claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, 9, 11, 13-16, 18, 21 and 23-31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Bhargava et al., U.S. Patent No. 7,376,701, in view of Lazaridis et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,219,694, and claims 7 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Bhargava in view of Lazaridis and Taniguchi et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,801,962, have been rendered moot as agreed during the telephone interview because the features of claim 5 have been incorporated into each of the independent claims.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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